



UNITED STATES SOUTHERN COMMAND

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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Belize, U.S. to co-host regional security conference on illicit trafficking

MIAMI — The Belize Defence Force and [United States Southern Command](#) (*SOUTHCOM*) will co-host the 2011 Central American Security Conference (*CENTSEC*) in San Pedro, Belize, May 4-5, 2011.

The two-day conference will focus on strategies, objectives, implementation, and resources supporting counter illicit trafficking operations in the region.

A dozen countries from Central America, North America, South America and the Caribbean have been invited to participate, as well as representatives from the Conference of Central American Armed Forces (*CFAC*), and senior leaders from the [U.S. State Department](#), [U.S Northern Command](#), and the [Center for Hemispheric Defense Studies](#).

Brig. Gen. Dario Tapia, Commander of the Belize Defence Force, and [U.S. Air Force Gen. Douglas Fraser](#), *SOUTHCOM* commander, will welcome participants to the annual regional event.

CENTSEC is one of three regional security conferences sponsored by *SOUTHCOM* each year to provide forums for dialogue and exchanges among defense and security leaders from the Caribbean, Central America and South America.

This year's *CENTSEC* follows the [2011 Caribbean Nations Security Conference](#) co-hosted by *SOUTHCOM* and the Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force in Port of Spain Feb. 23-24.

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